

King Killer Eludes Wide FBI Hunt

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

The FBI's failure to apprehend the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King has led to reports that J. Edgar Hoover is not interested in catching the murderer. The reports are based partly on the fact that Hoover and King were not on good terms, Hoover having publicly branded King as "the most notorious liar in the world."

We have checked into the operations of the FBI in this respect and are convinced that it is conducting perhaps the most painstaking exhaustive manhunt ever before undertaken in the United States. Its G-men have checked every bar ever patronized by James Earl Ray, every flophouse he ever stopped at, every cantina in Mexico he ever visited. It has collected an amazing array of evidence, all linking Ray with the murder.

That he has not been found may be due, first, to the possibility that he himself was murdered by those who hired him to kill Dr. King; or, second, that he is hiding in some remote Mexican village.

If he has money — and apparently he had — Ray might be able to live in a distant part of Mexico indefinitely. The Mexico City police are efficient and co-operative, but police in the remote areas are not. In some villages few Mexicans can read or write, and

radio news of the outside world does not penetrate.

Studied Crime Fiction

What the FBI has established about King's assassin was that he was a professional killer who had studied the suspense writing of Ian Fleming and Ayn Rand. His pseudonym, Eric Starvo Galt, for instance, was taken from both authors.

Yet, while a student of crime he was also a bungler. For he left behind the murder rifle with his fingerprints on it and, wrapped around the rifle a bedspread which contained strands of his hair. He also left behind a blue zipper bag containing a brush with hair matching those on the bedspread.

All the evidence we have been able to gather points to the probability that Ray was hired to kill Dr. King. He broke out of the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967, after boasting to fellow prisoners that he intended to make a big "score" on the outside. He remarked to one inmate that he might try to collect a rumored \$1 million bounty that supposedly had been offered by "a businessmen's group" for the death of Dr. King.

Four months later, on Aug. 30, 1967, he opened a safe deposit box in the Birmingham Trust National Bank and suddenly began passing out crisp \$20 bills like a big spender.

He paid \$499 for dancing instruction, then quit after only a few lessons. He spent \$395 for mail-order photographic equipment that he didn't know how to operate.

He shelled out money for a bartending course, but showed no interest in working behind any bar. He also took a course in lock-picking from a correspondence school in Michigan. His white Mustang cost \$1995, which he paid in cash. He drove it from Mexico to Montreal, from Los Angeles to New Orleans.

Occasionally he slipped \$20 to bar girls and prostitutes. In Mexico he lived with a prostitute in small towns like Jalisco and Puerto Vallarta where prices were cheap. Once he posed in sun glasses for a picture with his Mexican prostitute. In Los Angeles, he advertised in the hippie newspaper that he would like to meet "a passionate married woman." He also paid \$1 to the Swinger's Club for the names and addresses of five girls.

All told, Ray spent an estimated \$10,000 in seven months. Yet he never held a job, and committed no crimes following his escape from the Missouri penitentiary that the FBI has discovered. Previously he had been involved in a long list of filling station and other robberies. But after his escape he became a loner, in some respects became another Lee Harvey Oswald. Meanwhile, he sought to establish

a new identity as Eric Starvo Galt.

Careful Plans

It seems likely that Ray planned the murder of Dr. King for several months. He finally purchased the Remington rifle in Birmingham on March 30, then moved to a boarding house in Atlanta. In his room, agents found a map of Atlanta with four locations circled.

They were Dr. King's residence, his headquarters at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Ray's boarding house and the spot where he abandoned his Mustang after the murder. In the middle of the map was also a clear thumbprint from Ray's right thumb.

Evidently, Ray changed his mind about waylaying King in Atlanta and followed him to Memphis instead.

If white extremists put up the blood money it was probably not the Ku Klux Klan or the Minute Men, for they are an impatient lot who would not have waited for several months for Ray to get results.

Black extremists have also not been ruled out. They might have sought to get rid of King in order to remove the prophet of nonviolence.

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Bill Gold Ailing

Bill Gold is ill. The District Line column will be resumed upon his return.





Carl Rowan

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Plot Theory Probed

WASHINGTON—The entire U.S. intelligence apparatus, including the military and the Central Intelligence Agency, has now become involved in the investigation of the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Evidence gathered by FBI agents in one of the most massive probes in the nation's history has forced serious investigation of these possibilities:

1. That James Earl Ray, the alleged assassin, was the hired killer in a Cuba-Red China plot.
2. That the "assassin squad" of the Soviet secret police was somehow involved in the plot.
3. That Ray was hired indirectly by certain black nationalists who paid him with money made available by foreign sources.

MANY AGENTS

The FBI has had as many as 2,000 agents working at one time, in cooperation with hundreds of local policemen and other U.S. intelligence agents, to track down every lead—including the above possibilities that the assassination was plotted with the intention of creating internal chaos in the United States.

It should be emphasized that the dominant theory—and hope—among those directing the investigation is still that the killer was a loner who murdered Dr. King out of his own crazy, racist views.

But this theory loses supporters as each day goes by without agents turning up any trace of Ray, who is linked to the murder and murder weapon by fingerprints and ballistics data.

FBI agents believe no loner could get food and drink for so long a period in this country without being detected in the massive day-and-night search that is underway.

WELL HEELED

This point, added to the now-known fact that Ray had plenty of money, has given credibility to the theory that Dr. King's assassin was a hired killer.

A growing fear in FBI circles is that the killer was given \$10,000 in advance to murder Dr. King with a promise of

much more upon completion of the job. When he returned to his U.S. racist employers for the final payoff, the theory goes, he was slain and his body dumped where agents may never find it.

International intelligence agents have entered the investigation, however, because of Ray's mysterious trips to New Orleans—and certain of the suspect's trips out of the country. The FBI reportedly has pinpointed Ray's movements even to knowing which prostitute he spent which night with in certain countries, but it has not yet produced meaningful evidence of an international plot.

But there is deep suspicion of a Cuba-Red China plot. The assumption is that, if the Cubans had made arrangements to spirit their hired killer out of the U.S., they very likely killed him and dumped him in the ocean.

LITTLE EVIDENCE

Totally-informed sources here say, however, that there is no evidence whatsoever of involvement by the Communist party of the United States, or of any splinter group of U.S. Communists.

One source called the King killing "one of the most baffling cases in memory." He said suspect Ray "just vanished in the face of the damndest FBI manhunt in ages."

He also theorized that the slaying and escape were so smoothly organized that they tend to discredit suspicions of black nationalist involvement—but that "Every possibility must be checked."

The FBI is pouring vast amounts of manpower and money into the search because it knows its reputation is at stake. It also knows that if Dr. King's killer is not found all sorts of rumors will arise. Memphis police already have been accused of plotting the murder, and the accusations soon could be hurled at the FBI or other federal agencies.

Some of those directing the investigation are openly hoping that it will turn out to be the work of one man. They fear the explosive repercussions if it turns out that the murderer was a hired killer for white U.S. racist—or for a foreign power.

9 APR 1968

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HOLED UP—OR BURIED?

The Ray Mystery Deepens

By JEREMIAH O'LEARY

Star Staff Writer

James Earl Ray, sought as the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has disappeared as effectively as if the earth had swallowed him, and that may well have been the case.

"If he was the hired triggerman of a conspiracy, the chances are very good that he has been killed to silence him forever," said one official who has been close to the international manhunt for Ray. "But if he conceived and carried out the plot alone, he is probably holed up somewhere. But where?"

Whether he was a paid gunman or a loner, Ray was last seen on the morning of April 5, less than 15 hours after Dr. King was shot to death by a sniper in Memphis, Tenn.

Mrs. Ernest Payne, who lives in a low-rent housing project called Capitol Homes in Atlanta, Ga., peered out her window



JAMES EARL RAY

sometime between 7 and 9 a.m. that day and saw a man believed to be Ray park and lock a white 1966 Mustang. Two Atlanta cab drivers believe they may

have given Ray a short ride that same morning.

Beyond that point, Ray has vanished.

The FBI has said nothing about the progress of its investigation and has issued only three terse press releases along with several photos of the wanted man. But from a number of sources it has been possible to amass a considerable amount of information about Ray's life prior to last April 4.

Ray was penniless when he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo. on April 23, 1967.

On Aug. 30, 1967, he turned up in Birmingham, Ala., rented a safety deposit box in the Birmingham Trust National Bank and began spending large amounts of money—estimated to total up to \$10,000—over the next seven months.

Where he obtained the money

See RAY, Page A-14

RAY

Mystery Surrounding King's Killer Deepens

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that he spent on the car, his 19,000 miles of travel to Canada, Mexico and the West Coast, and on wine, women and bartending lessons is one of the mysteries of the case.

FBI agents have located some persons who describe Ray as a Negro-hating racist and others who say he never mentioned race over long periods of time.

If he has a profession, it is that of a notably unsuccessful small-time hoodlum. So far as the records indicate, every hold-up or robbery he ever tried ended in disaster for him. He was, as the convicts say, a three-time loser.

Investigators trying to trace the source of his money have been unable to connect him with any robbery that occurred in his year of freedom since his Missouri prison escape.

The basic federal charge against Ray is conspiracy to violate the civil rights of Dr. King, while the Tennessee charge against him is murder. The conspiracy charge was based on a remark attributed to Ray himself. He is said to have told a Birmingham gun dealer that his brother had told him to buy the 30.06 Remington Gamemaster pump gun which has been tabbed as the murder weapon.

Ray's brothers have been checked out and officials say they have not been linked with the crime.

But investigators have not ruled out the possibility:

- That Dr. King's murder may have been ordered and paid for by extremists of the right or the left.
- That these plotters may have been either white or black.
- That they could have been either domestic or foreign.

The FBI, on orders from Director J. Edgar Hoover to break the King case at any costs, has traced Ray's life from his birth on March 10, 1928 in Alton, Mo., up to the morning of April 5, 1968.

A ninth-grade dropout, he eventually joined the Army and served the better part of three years in the West German cities of Bremen, Bremerhaven, Nuernburg and Frankfurt. He was tried in a refrigeration company, the military police and the infantry, but the Army finally gave him a general discharge for ineptness.

Arrests Mount

Soon after his release, Ray

St. Francis Hotel and became a regular habitue of the Sultan Room bar of the hotel and other saloons. The barkeeps and girls around the Rabbit's Foot Club grew to know him as a man with a thirst and a bankroll.

Still as Eric Starvo Galt, he remained in Los Angeles until March 27, 1968, and left a broad trail. There was one side trip from Los Angeles to New Orleans with a man named Charles Stein, a bearded songwriter. Stein reported that his friend required him, his sister and his cousin to sign a petition for third party presidential candidate George Wallace in North Hollywood, Calif. as the price for taking him to New Orleans and back.

Stein recalled that Ray made one long-distance call from somewhere in Texas but did not know who he called. Stein also does not know why Ray went to New Orleans, nor who he saw there.

While in Los Angeles, Ray advertised in the L. A. Free Press, a "hippie tabloid," for a contact with a "passionate married woman." He signed the ad "Eric S." but Free Press records show that he used the full alias, "Eric S. Galt" in paying for the ad. He also bought a list of five female names from the Swinger's Club of Downey, Calif. for \$1 and sent a letter and picture of himself to a Los Angeles girl on Feb. 17. She gave the Polaroid picture to the FBI and it, too, was made public this week.

Using his "Galt" pseudonym, Ray paid more than \$400 for dancing lessons in Long Beach and more than \$200 for a course in bartending during his Los Angeles stay. He paid cash for both.

Birmingham Story

Ray left Los Angeles on March 27 and drove to Birmingham, arriving there on March 29, the day he made the first of two visits to the Aeromarine Supply Co.

On the first visit he gave his name as Harvey Lowmyer and bought a Remington 243 caliber rifle, telling the salesman he wanted to go deer shooting in Wisconsin. On March 30, "Lowmyer" returned to the shop and said his brother had told him he had gotten the wrong kind of gun. What he wanted, he said, was a Remington 30.06 Gamemaster with a telescopic sight.

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Arrests Mount

Soon after his release, Ray turned to crime and was arrested many times from 1949 until his last sentencing in 1960. His life pattern was fixed. He became a loner whose amusements centered on bar girls and prostitutes. He rarely worked. When he needed money for vodka and beer, he stole or took it by force. He never married.

Fellow prisoners knew him as a man addicted to amphetamine or "pep" pills; an avid reader of "girlie" magazines, a lone wolf who constantly talked of escape. A fellow prisoner has reported that once when a rumor was circulated in prison that a "businessmen's group" had offered a \$1 million bounty for the death of Dr. King, Ray said, "If I ever get out of here, I believe I'll collect that."

On Aug. 30, 1967, Ray answered an ad placed in a Birmingham newspaper by William D. Paisley, who wanted to sell his 1966 Mustang. Ray paid \$1,995 in cash for the car.

At that time, Ray was going under the name of Eric Starvo Galt and it was by that alias he was known to his Birmingham landlord, Peter Cherpes, and to Alabama authorities who issued him a license on Sept. 6, 1967. This was the start of his heavy spending, although he continued to live in cheap rooming houses and rundown hotels.

Trip to Canada

For reasons unknown, Ray drove to Canada and spent a few days in Montreal. He lived in an old hotel and passed himself off as an employe of Expo-67.

While living in Cherpes' house in Birmingham, Ray received a large box of expensive camera equipment from a mail order firm in Chicago.

Cherpes said Ray left his place on Oct. 7, 1967. He drove to Mexico, where he passed some time in places like Jalisco and Puerto Vallarta. He became well known in the cantinas there and even had his picture taken with a Mexican prostitute. (That picture, showing Galt wearing sun glasses, was released by the FBI this week.)

Investigators believe his motive for going to Mexico was to buy marijuana but Ray apparently also liked the country. He told one acquaintance: "When I make my big score, I'm going to come down here and live on beans and beer."

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From there, the deduction is that Ray went to Atlanta and got a room in a boarding house inhabited largely by hippies. Here he was once again Galt. The FBI did not find the boarding house until several days after Ray's abandoned car was reported parked in the Atlanta housing project on April 11.

In the vain hope that Ray might still be hiding inside, the FBI staked out the house and watched it for more than 24 hours. Then agents dressed in "hippie" clothes got inside and found that the quarry had either fled from the room soon after ditching his car April 5 or had not returned there at all.

But the agents found key evidence in the room — a television set that "Galt" had gotten in a trade with a girl in Los Angeles and a city map of Atlanta.

Map Delineated

The map had four circles drawn around four significant locations: Dr. King's Atlanta residence; the office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; the "hippie" house and the spot where the car had been abandoned on April 5.

Even more important was a well-defined fingerprint found on the map. FBI fingerprint experts were able to determine that the print was from a right thumb whereas all other 26 latent fingerprints from Ray's rifle, car, binoculars and places he had been were too indistinct for classification.

The decision was made to compare the map fingerprint with the equivalent points of all white male fugitives in the general age range of the man known as "Galt." An exhaustive finger-by-finger comparison proved that Eric Starvo Galt and James Earl Ray were one and the same and the manhunt was launched.

House Takes Slap At College Unrest

By United Press International

The House has voted to deny National Science Foundation grants or fellowships to students willfully disobeying college or university regulations. The bill now goes to the Senate.

Rep. Louis Wyman, R-N.H., sponsor of the proposal, said yesterday it is aimed at recent demonstrations on college cam-

King Murder Hatched Abroad?

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But this theory loses supporters as each day goes by without agents turning up any trace of Ray, who is linked to the murder and murder weapon by fingerprints and ballistics data.

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One source called the King killing "one of the most baffling cases in memory."

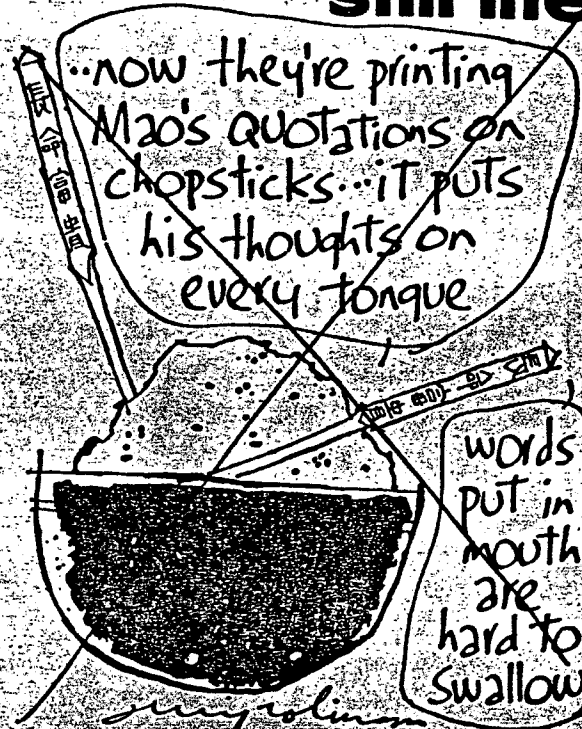
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still life



WASHINGTON STAR
8 MAY 1968

ascendant doves they will be able to wear down our will on this issue of place by continuing the psywar manipulation of American opinion. A victory in this introductory battle, they reason, will guarantee a victory in the entire negotiation campaign. Unfortunately they have grounds for confidence: the American will has looked rather pale of late. We will get an accurate reading on how sick it is when the place is announced.

Willard—Galt—Ray—?

On the day following the Martin Luther King shooting, Attorney General Ramsey Clark commented that the assassin had left an "unusually large" amount of evidence, and indicated his belief that the case would be quickly wrapped up. For a week or more, statements from his office and the FBI were uniformly optimistic, suggesting that the investigators were so hot on the trail of the quarry that an arrest could be expected at any moment. But the days and then the weeks have been bringing not solution but deepening mystery.

Maybe there was too much evidence. Too readily at hand. It is a very odd assassin indeed, when you come to think about it, who calls attention to himself by paying a \$6.50 rent in a shoddy rooming house with a crisp new \$20 bill; who takes care to let other boarders see him during his few hours' residence; who waits an hour and a half in a communal bathroom; who, shortly after the shot was fired, drops a rifle and overnight bag before a number of witnesses; who jumps into a white Mustang—hardly the most inconspicuous of cars—and roars away "laying rubber." "John Willard," the landlady says he called himself. Then a while later John Willard is transformed into "Eric Starvo Galt," who took a driver's test in Montgomery, Ala. last September, registered at a rooming house in Birmingham, bought a white Mustang and had it registered in his name, drove 19,000 miles in five months, and spent plenty of money.

Next Galt metamorphosizes into James Earl Ray, an ex-con of forty (a decade older than Willard-Galt had been reported to be) on the lam since last April from a Missouri prison where he had served seven years of a twenty-year sentence for armed robbery and car theft.

Aliases are universal among underground men, but the differences among Willard, Galt and Ray do not seem to end with the names. Their reported ages, weights, appearances, doings, recreations (Galt was an "avid dancer") do not coincide. The officials and fellow inmates who knew Ray at the Missouri prison expressed amazement and disbelief at his having been brought into the case, noting that Ray was not anti-Negro—not interested one way or another in the Negro question—and not a killer-type.

It adds up, so far, to a set of confusions and con-

tradictions. It suggests the authorities might do well to re-examine the file from open their minds to all possible automatic assumption of all comment that King was killed by a racist "white man" (in our nation and time, white men are to be presumed guilty until proven innocent, it goes without saying), ought to be reopened. In the light of all the evidence and anti-evidence now strewn across the trail, the possibility of a conspiracy cannot be excluded; begins to seem, indeed, more probable than not. Nor is a band of white racists the only conceivable conspiracy hypothesis. If we apply the old test of *cui bono?*—to whose benefit?—King's assassination benefits most plainly and directly the revolutionary Black Power extremists, who, moreover, make no secret of their fondness for killings. We should not forget, either, that the enemies now fighting us in the field in Southeast Asia have always defined the United States as one front of their war; they, too, have manifestly benefited from the aftermath of the assassination. In the Communist manual of "enlightened terror," the use of an assassination seemingly originating within "the target group" as a technique for embroiling the target group—the enemy—in self-destructive conflict is a well-known, well-tested tactic.

The Dollar: Still Sick

Last week Mr. William McChesney Martin Jr., chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, once again chose the darkest colors to paint the portrait of the U.S. economy. He is worried about inflation, federal deficits, and our continuing international payment deficit.

The dollar's illness can now join the weather's foulness as something everyone talks about and no one does anything about. Who indeed is Mr. Martin to waggle his finger at inflation when he, as chairman of the FRB, has financed that very inflation by monetizing the debt—dutifully stuffing the Federal Reserve with government bonds? Mr. Martin is reduced to bemoaning the consequences of his own policies. In honesty he should either reform his policies or resign his post. He only underlines the fecklessness of U. S. policy when he seeks to shift the burden to others—this time, the taxpayers.

The Congress could bail Mr. Martin out, if it wished, by putting an end to the deficits that Mr. Martin finds increasingly difficult to finance. There are two ways, and only two, to stop a deficit: raise revenue to meet expenses, or reduce expenses to match revenue. This Congress is no less cowardly than most others; it can be counted on to refuse to raise taxes, or reduce expenditures, to any useful level during an election year.

One wonders what the President is doing. Four months ago he devoted a long and serious message to the problem of the dollar. He spoke to Congress

MAY 1968

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MAX LERNER

Air of Conspiracy Envelops Dr. King's Slaying

Consider the man called James Earl Ray, who also seems to have used a number of other names, among them Eric Starvo Galt, and is now the target of a vast manhunt. When Martin Luther King was killed, the first widespread impulse — which I shared with others — was to assume the bullet had been governed by the assassin's passion of racist hatred. I wrote that the man, like the act, had been "sick, sick." But if Ray is in fact the man who pulled the trigger — and obviously that must remain an "if" until all the evidence is in — the theory of a single hate-governed assassin may not hold up.

Another theory, which cannot be ignored and is gaining some credence, is that it was a "contract job," much like any gangland murder, with some petty criminal punk serving as the gunman, but also with precise planning for the murder and getaway. This does not rule out racist hatred on the part of the gunman himself, who may have lent himself more readily to the killing because it jibed with his own twisted broodings about how to

set the world right. But it puts the focus not only on the killer but on whatever other men used him.

From this angle of vision many of the details now emerging about Ray — his criminal convictions, his jail term and escape, his travels, his bank account, his purchases and expenditures — seem to fall into a meaningful pattern. The trail will probably cool and warm again a number of times before the FBI catches up with him — if it ever does. For Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark's early description of the killer as "a lone man on the run" may no longer be true.

It seems probable now that he was not a lone man, and he may no longer be on the run. If, in fact, there were others who used him for their purposes, his capture now would be intolerable to them, and the indicated course for them would be to kill him before he can be caught. If they are not able to — and that, too, is possible — his capture should uncover quite a story.

Inevitably, of course, one thinks of another killer in an-

other assassination — that of John Kennedy — which has not been cleared up in the minds of many people and may never be wholly resolved. There is even the weird coincidence in the evidence that Galt-Ray made one or several trips to New Orleans, which awakens memories of Lee Harvey Oswald's stay in that city, and of the erratic efforts of Jim Garrison to prove a New Orleans conspiracy using Oswald as a "patsy" and to hang it on the CIA and the FBI.

It all adds up to a climate of conspiracy along with the climate of hate. It is well to be on our guard against both. There is hot violence and there is cold violence — the kind that springs out of massive anger and the kind that comes from calculated plan. If one had to choose, it is better to strike out from anger than to move in cold blood. One recalls William Blake's sentence: "The tigers of wrath are wiser than the horses of instruction." I should deny any real wisdom to the violence that comes out of wrath, as against the effort of reason,

but I certainly prefer the wrath to the cold conspiracy.

The day of the loner is probably passing, whether we think of the creative adventurist loner or the lonely assassin. For many things that were once done by individuals, we carry over from the Army today the term "Operation." Even political leadership involves a "team."

Yet it would be folly to carry this to the point of believing that nothing disastrous ever happens except as the result of a conspiracy. The fact is that one of the strongest elements in the climate of violence today is the compulsion to believe that we are surrounded by conspiracies.

This is the paranoid view of life — that nothing happens to us either by chance or through our own deserts, but only as the result of a planned operation by our enemies. Believing there is an enemy plot against him and his group, the paranoid personality strikes out — whether in hot or cold blood — to foil it. Thereby he adds to the climate of violence, and the two climates — of violence and conspiracy — are fused.

Someday we may discover what prompted King's killer — whether it was the wrathful violence of a True Believer or the cold anger of violence used as an instrument for some smoldering paranoid resentment deep within. In either case it is essential that the assassin be tracked down; not for the sake of vengeance, but because we need to know what moves in the minds of distorted men before we can ever achieve even a measure of reason.

Galt Trip From Coast to New Orleans Recall

By MARTIN WALDRON

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, April 25—James Earl Ray, accused by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of conspiracy in the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was reported to have driven last December from Los Angeles to New Orleans to talk business with "a man with an Italian name."

Charles Stein, a bearded songwriter, said that he had made the trip with Eric Starvo Galt, said by the F.B.I. to be an alias of Ray's. Mr. Stein said in an interview that Galt had told him the man's name, but "I don't remember right now what it was."

"But it was a man with an Italian name and he either lived on the industrial canal in New Orleans or he had a business there," Mr. Stein said.

There are scores of businesses but no residences on the New Orleans industrial canal, which is part of the Mississippi River port facilities.

Complaint Filed

Dr. King was fatally wounded by a rifle bullet in Memphis April 4. A complaint filed by Joseph H. Gamble, F.B.I. agent in Birmingham, said that Galt, with an "alleged brother," had conspired to violate Dr. King's civil rights.

A week ago, in discussing the trip he had taken with Galt, Mr. Stein said that Galt had driven to New Orleans as a favor to Mrs. Rosas to pick up two of the widow's daughters, who were staying in New Orleans with relatives.

Mr. Stein said that Galt had agreed to make the trip if Mr. Stein and his sister would sign a petition seeking to get the name of former Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama on the California ballot as a Presidential candidate.

Mrs. Rosas said that she and her brother had signed the Wallace petitions because they were both from the Deep South, not because they had wanted a favor from Galt.

Mrs. Rosas said that Galt had been discussing his proposed trip to New Orleans in a Hollywood bar where she worked. She said she had told him about her two daughters in New Orleans and that he had invited her to go with him and bring them back.

On Dec. 15, when the trip was to begin, Galt came by her house to pick her up, she said, but she said that she had not intended to go and asked Galt if her brother could go instead. Galt, she said, agreed

Galt drove straight through to New Orleans without stopping for the night. Galt, he said, drank many cans of beer on the way.

"We would stop and get a six pack and he would drink it while he was driving," Mr. Stein said.

Mr. Stein said that Galt reported having talked to the man he had driven almost 2,000 miles to see. Mr. Stein added that Galt seemed to be "pleased."

"He wanted to leave and drive right back to Los Angeles," Mr. Stein said.

Mr. Stein, who once lived in New Orleans, said that he had prevailed on Galt to stay over for a couple of days while he visited relatives.

Records at the Provincial Motel in New Orleans showed that Galt stayed three days, Dec. 17 through Dec. 19, in a \$12-a-day room.

Mr. Stein said that he and his widowed sister, Mrs. Rita Rosas, 30 years old, with whom

he lives in Hollywood, have been questioned numerous times by F.B.I. agents about the trip.

"They are now saying I am the key to this thing, who may have paid for it," Mr. Stein said.

He would not elaborate.

Mrs. Rosas said last night that she was interviewed several hours yesterday by agents.

"They asked me all kind of things, like did I think Eric Galt was capable of murder," she said. "Everybody is capable of murder, but I don't believe the Eric Galt I knew shot Dr. King."

Mr. Stein said that he had spent \$35 for gasoline and food, but that Galt had not seemed worried about money.

In New Orleans, Mr. Stein took Galt to meet Mr. Stein's sister, Mrs. Marie Lee. Mrs. Lee said today that the pictures released by the F.B.I. of Ray, an escaped convict from Missouri, did not appear to be those of Galt.

The bureau has so far found that Galt and the same person through prints.

Mr. Stein, 38, said he could not disclose details of his conversations with Galt during the trip.

He said that he had made an offer from a man for exclusive rights to the story.

Mr. Stein said that he had stopped several times on the way to New Orleans to make long-distance calls.

International Herald Tribune, HONG KONG, April 25.

The F.B.I. has been conducting an international search for information on the whereabouts of James Earl Ray. The States Consulate General in London today said that the bureau has asked it to give the full name of the suspect in giving the full name of the suspect.

A consulate spokesman said today.



Down with Cluny Sec

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1968

From Coast to New Orleans Recalled by Companion

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rove straight through to New Orleans without stopping overnight. Galt, he said, had many cans of beer on the car seat. "He would stop and get a drink and he would drink while he was driving," Mr. Stein said.

Stein said that Galt had been having talked to the man who had driven almost 2,000 miles to see Mr. Stein added that Galt seemed to be nervous.

Galt wanted to leave and drive right back to Los Angeles, Stein said.

Stein, who once lived in New Orleans, said that he prevailed on Galt to stay for a couple of days while he visited relatives.

Records at the Provincial Hotel in New Orleans showed that Galt stayed three days, from Dec. 17 through Dec. 19, in a single room.

Stein said that he and his widowed sister, Mrs. Rita Stein, 30 years old, with whom

he lives in Hollywood, have been questioned numerous times by F.B.I. agents about the trip.

"They are now saying I am the key to this thing, who may have paid for it," Mr. Stein said.

He would not elaborate.

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The bureau has said that it found that Galt and Ray were the same person through fingerprints.

Mr. Stein, 38, said that he could not disclose all the details of his conversation with Galt during the trip to New Orleans. He said that he had an offer from a magazine for exclusive rights to his story.

Mr. Stein said that Galt had stopped several times in Texas on the way to New Orleans to make long-distance telephone calls.

International Hunt Opens
HONG KONG, April 25 (UPI)—The F.B.I. has begun an international search for information on the whereabouts of James Earl Ray. The United States Consulate General issued a statement today saying that the bureau has asked assistance in "giving the fullest possible publicity" to information about the suspect.

A consulate spokesman said

similar requests had been made through United States diplomatic missions in a number of countries.

Mexico Frees Suspect
HERMOSILLO, Mexico, April 25 (AP)—An American arrested by Mexican officials because they thought he resembled pictures of the man wanted in the slaying of Dr. King was released today after questioning.

Daniel David Kennedy, 41 years old, of Baltimore, praised the Mexicans upon his release. He had been detained 24 hours after the police in nearby Caborca arrested him.

"I guess anyone else would be mad, but I can't be angry with these people," Mr. Kennedy said. "They thought I looked like James Ray and they were only doing their duty."

Mr. Kennedy was hiking to Baja California. He said he had done various jobs throughout the country.



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